

ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION

E-BULLETIN

Edition 40
November 2011



Tilling Green Community Centre
Mason Road,
Rye
TN31 7BE
☎ 01797 229600

Old Bank Chambers
1 Buckhurst Road
Bexhill
TN40 1QF
☎ 01424 217259

Chairman: Jo Kirkham

Email: tina.hall@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk

Visit: www.rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk

Company No: 05333784

Registered Charity No: 1117546

NEWS

ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION AGM

The Board of Directors/Trustees has pleasure in inviting you to the Annual General Meeting of Rother Voluntary Action on Thursday 17th November 2011 at 2.30pm – 4.00pm at Victoria Hall, London Road, Bexhill. This year's theme is "MAXIMISING COMMUNITY POTENTIAL" and the impact of local action plans, localism and coming trends.

WHIP PLANTING AND BEACH CLEANING

Fresh from its mega fruit tree planting in Bexhill schools, Bexhill Environmental Group (BEG) will be planting 105 Woodland Trust whips - little tree saplings - as a native tree hedge in Sidley Recreation Ground.

BEG will be preparing the ground from 10am until the job is done on Saturday 12th November then planting the whips from 10am until the work is completed, on Monday 14th November. Please contact Michael (see below) if you would like to help in any way for any length of time.

Then from 10am to 12noon on Saturday 19th November, BEG will be cleaning the public beaches in Bexhill. Meet close by the public conveniences at the West end of West Parade. Anyone who wants to help will be very welcome.

BEG is fully insured and will provide equipment but volunteers are asked to wear strong gloves and appropriate footwear.

If you would like further information about BEG's projects or if you would like to become a member of BEG, please contact Michael on 07989 781199 or email info@bexhillenvironmentalgroup.org.uk

PESTALOZZI OPENS ITS DOORS WIDE TO THE PUBLIC.

Pestalozzi International Village Trust in Sedlescombe, East Sussex has undergone some significant changes this year and it is time to show off! They are opening their doors to the public on Saturday 3rd December between 2pm and 5pm.

The open day will consist of an introduction from the new Chief Executive Officer, Sue Walton, guided tours of our facilities, displays from our students on their countries festive traditions, the Pestalozzi archive display and finishing with a special performance from the students at 4pm. The event will be enjoyable and educational for families of all ages. Anyone is welcome to come and go as they please throughout the afternoon and entry is free. Refreshments will be available, including mince pies & mulled wine, although donations would be most welcome.

Pestalozzi offers a unique two year scholarship programme to academically bright, but economically disadvantaged 16-19 year old students from developing countries the chance to develop their potential using the Pestalozzi principles of educating the head, heart and hands.

For more information on how you can help Pestalozzi, please visit www.pestalozzi.org.uk or call 01424 870444. **Contact:** Lauren Fry Lauren.fry@pestalozzi.org.uk 07708 926563

COMPACT WEEK 2011 - NOVEMBER 7 – 11

The East Sussex Compact is the document that sets out the principles for partnership working between the public sector and the voluntary and community sector in East Sussex.

This is the year that the East Sussex Compact will be revised and updated to make sure that it is relevant to partnership working in the 21st century.

During Compact Week there are two things that you can do to make sure that the Compact is working in East Sussex:

1. Read and comment on the draft version that is now available for comment on the East Sussex Strategic Partnership website.
2. When attending a meeting or forum event make sure that the East Sussex Compact is mentioned. You could check how many people attending know about the Compact, or discuss whether people feel that its principles are being adhered to.

SMALL COMMUNITY SERVICES TASTER EVENTS – BECAUSE SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL!

Adult Social Care is holding four promotional drop-in events in November and one in December to showcase what local Micro providers and members of the ESCC Support with Confidence scheme have to offer:

The events are open to anyone who would like to attend, but will be of particular interest to service users, care managers, carers, and other service providers within the county. There will be opportunities to try out some of the services on offer and for attendees to share their views about how the showcased providers could develop their services in future. Free tea and cake will also be on offer, as well as the opportunity for any individuals or groups interested in becoming a micro provider to get advice on starting up. So come along and find out more!

No booking is necessary and attendees will have the opportunity to enter into a draw to win a £50 voucher! So please come along and see what we have to offer:

- **Eastbourne** – 21 November 2011, 10.30am to 2.30pm. Age Concern Building (William and Patricia Venton Centre, Junction Road, Eastbourne)
- **Lewes** – 23 November 2011, 10.30am to 2.30pm. The White Hart Hotel, High Street, Lewes
- **Uckfield** – 24 November 2011, 10.30am to 2.30pm. Foresters Hall, Harcourt Road, Uckfield
- **Hastings** – 28 November 2011, 10.30am to 2.30pm. The White Rock Hotel, Hastings
- **Crowborough** – 6 December 2011, 10.30am to 2.30pm. All Saints Hall Coffee Bar Chapel Green

For more information, contact Samantha Tullett, Micro Market Development Project Support Officer, 01323 463410 or samantha.tullett@eastsussex.gov.uk

PERSONALISATION: THE IMPACT FOR CARERS

The 6.4 million people acting as carers in the UK are absolutely crucial to the delivery of adult social care and the implementation of personalisation. Yet little is known about how personalisation will affect carers, or how they can best be supported to make personalisation effective.

Third Sector Research Centre researchers examined the evidence surrounding personalisation, finding very few studies focusing exclusively on carers. They argue that this research will be needed to translate the objectives of personalisation into reality, and set out the areas of further research required to inform third sector practice. Third sector organisations play important roles in delivering social care services, and supporting service users and their families. Knowing how they can effectively work with carers to support individuals and groups, in the context of personalisation, will be vital.

[Read the full paper](#) by Dr Mary Larkin and Dr Helen Dickinson

FUNDING

SUSSEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

For all the latest funding opportunities visit <http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk/home/>

EAST SUSSEX

For all the latest up to date funding opportunities visit <http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/funding/updates/default.htm>

CONSULTATIONS

REMINDER TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON BIG'S NEW POLICY DIRECTIONS

The Government is running a 12 week consultation on proposed new policy directions for the Big Lottery Fund. For information about the proposed policy direction and how to submit your response visit the [Cabinet Office website](#). The deadline for responses is midnight on Friday 18 November 2011

LIBRARY SURVEY

East Sussex Library and Information Service is undertaking a survey to find out views on the health and wellbeing information available in the library.

We want to hear about experiences of looking for and using health information at the library so that we can improve our service and the partnership work we undertake with other health services and organisations.

The survey is available to complete online, or in paper form, until Saturday 12th November. Online completion link below, or pick up a paper copy in your local library.

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/2011/healthinlibraries/download.htm>

CONSULTATION ON THE RENEWABLES OBLIGATION BANDING REVIEW

Open Date: 20/10/2011 Close Date: 12/01/2012

This consultation invites comments on the Government's proposals for the levels of banded support available for renewable electricity generation under the Renewables Obligation (RO) for the period 2013-17. This consultation applies to England and Wales only. Separate consultations will be undertaken on proposals on banded support in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The RO is currently the main financial mechanism by which the Government incentivises deployment of large-scale renewable electricity generation. Banding reviews ensure that as market conditions and innovation within sectors change and evolve; renewables developers continue to receive the appropriate level of support necessary to maintain investments.

The lead banding scenario proposed in this consultation focuses on scalable lower-cost renewable technologies that will deliver the majority of the electricity we need to meet our 2020 targets. We are also reiterating our commitment to offshore wind and marine sectors where the UK has a rich natural resource, and can lead the way in driving down the costs of deployment.

Please use the response form provided to submit your response, or you can respond online using the [DECC e-consultation hub](#)[\[External link\]](#).

REVISING THE GUIDE TO HEALTH AND SAFETY AT MUSIC EVENTS

The Health and Safety Executive is consulting on a revised version of its publication 'A guide to health, safety and welfare at music and similar events', aimed primarily at organisers of such events. Responses by 11th November, http://www.eventsindustryforum.co.uk/event_safety_guide/ The current guide is available at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg195.htm>

TRAINING

FREE VOLUNTEER HEALTH WALK LEADER TRAINING

Friday 18 November 2011, 9.00-4.30pm

For volunteers that would like to lead health walks in Hastings and Rother.

The training covers: benefits of and barriers to physical activity, paperwork involved, route planning,

risk assessing, motivating walkers. For more info contact Paula Hubens, BTCV Healthy Walks Project Officer on 01424 446395.

CVS BOOSTER

HFS has started their training again this year. The CV Booster is about giving us **all** the basic training required in subjects which not only look fantastic on a CV but also can have a positive effect on our lives.

Fire Safety- 7th December 2011, 10am-12.30pm

Health and Safety-8th December 2011, 9.30-4pm

First Aid at Work- 9th December 2011, 9.30-4pm.

This package will be held at our Hastings store on Dorset Place. (TN34 1LG)

To access this **Free** training all you have to do is be over 19 years of age. Don't lose out on missing your place, complete an application form which you can access from our website www.hfs.org.uk or pop into either store. For more information contact:- Sarah Gregory, Training and Support Manager, Hastings Furniture Service 01424 441112 sarah@hfs.org.uk

SKILL SHARE

Free fantastic opportunity for all community and voluntary organisations working with young people to development their workforce and the services they deliver. Skill Share is working in partnership with ESCVYS to deliver training needs and organisation development, alongside a bursary of £500 per staff member to access training. Please contact Jaan Madan for more details

jaanmadan@escvys.org.uk 07811307538 www.skill-share.net

MEDIATION TRAINING COURSE

The Hastings and Rother Mediation Service will be running a training course for new mediators in March 2012 and are accepting applications for this course now.

Suitable applicants will have the following qualities:

- A desire to help other people resolve their problems through mediation
- Good listening skills
- An impartial and non-judgmental approach
- The capacity to volunteer for an average of 2-3 hours a week

Course details:

- The comprehensive training course will take place in St Leonards-on-Sea on five days in March 2012
- The course is free to those who sign up as volunteers with the Mediation Service and complete their first year's training
- Private individuals who do not intend to become volunteers but seek personal development only, are welcome to attend the course at a cost of £750.00. Outside agencies sponsoring delegates will be charged £1000.00 per place.

For further information please contact the Hastings and Rother Mediation Service on 01424 446808 (e-mail hmediation@aol.com).

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY WRITING: REVIEW AND UPDATE WORKSHOP

16th November 2011, 1 pm- 4.30 pm, BMECP Centre, Brighton

Due to popular demand Artswork is delighted to have a second workshop in Brighton.

This workshop is suitable for those working in the arts, youth or cultural sector who have a lead role or responsibility for child protection (e.g. as the child protection contact officer or as the organisational lead for the child protection policy for their organisation). It will be of particular interest to anyone who has taken part in more general child protection and safeguarding training and who would now like additional support in writing, developing or updating their child protection policy.

This workshop will look at the most effective methods of writing a child protection policy and will include useful tools and techniques for ensuring that all the correct procedures have been included and that it is fit for purpose and complies fully with current legislation.

Participants will leave this workshop feeling more confident and motivated about their role and with a practical action plan for updating and revising their current Child Protection Policy and Procedures for their organisation.

This workshop has been developed and will be delivered by Helen Cadbury who is an expert in Child Protection and Safeguarding and is highly experience youth arts practitioner and trainer.

Course fees range from £90- £110. Limited bursaries are available.

For more information, or to book a place on this workshop please contact Rachel Hall, Professional Development Manager – Artsplan via: 02380 332491 / artsplan@artsworld.org.uk.

COOKERY LEADER TRAINING

Two FREE training courses (over 4 weeks) run by East Sussex Healthcare in Hastings and Eastbourne, for those who want to run cookery sessions with people from their community group. For more information or to book please contact Diana Taylor on 07920 283995 or diana.taylor7@nhs.uk or Emma Eaves-Anderson on 07920 831768 or emma.eaves-anderson@nhs.net

3VA TRAINING

Treasurers Handbook – Part 1 with Pat Weaver

Wednesday 23 November, 9.30am – 2pm at

Venue: Council Chamber, Uckfield Civic Centre, Uckfield, TN11 1AE

This FREE session will help you to understand the role of the treasurer, including: tasks and responsibilities and financial controls; the legal aspect, including monetary thresholds and end-of-year requirements; reporting to the Committee (management reports) and understanding accounts.

Further information can be found by [clicking here](#).

Please note: Treasurers Handbook Part 2 will take place in Wealden District in December.

Conflict and Mediation with Mediation Plus

Wednesday 7 December, 10am - 4pm, 3VA's Annexe, 8 Saffrons Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1DG

This brand new course is being delivered by a 3VA member organisation - Mediation Plus. Drawing on their expertise, this course explores the concept of conflict and how it affects people. It also looks at the triggers and responses to conflict and how these can be dealt with to avoid misunderstanding and negative outcomes - one not to be missed. The closing date for bookings is 23 November. For more information, [click here](#).

Covering your Costs with Maureen Anstey and Lyn Faulkner-Leppard

Wednesday 7 December 2011, 9.30am – 4pm, Fleur De Lys Council Meeting Room, Town Council Offices, Inglenook, Market street, Hailsham BN27 2AE

This workshop will be split into two sections. The morning will look at preparing and using budgets; the difference between project and core costs; understanding the language involved and how to cover all your project costs. The afternoon will focus on identifying and calculating project costs and core costs, with emphasis on including hidden costs. There will be plenty of practice and advice to help you. **Target audience:** Anyone wishing to understand how to cover all their project costs (also known as full cost recovery); anyone involved in fund raising through writing funding applications; anyone with financial responsibility. Closing date: Wednesday 23 November 2011. For more information, [click here](#)

VACANCIES

*FEMALE REFUGE WORKER

Refuge is the largest specialist service provider of domestic violence services in the Country. On any given day Refuge is supporting over 1,600 women and children. It also runs the Freephone 24-hour National Domestic Violence Helpline in partnership with Women's Aid.

£23,000 per annum / 37.5 hours per week / Hastings / Ref: 045RWHAST

Visit www.refuge.org.uk/working-for-refuge for full details. Closing date 1st November 2011

*This post is based in a women's refuge and is therefore restricted to women under the Equality Act 2010

HOME-START

Family Organiser

25 hours **£19,621** pro rata (NJC point 22-27)

To support local families in the Hastings, St Leonards, Bexhill and Rother area; recruiting, training, supervising and supporting a team of volunteers. Accredited volunteer training courses so training qualifications required or willing to train. You will also need to liaise closely with statutory and voluntary organizations and will hold a level 3 qualification. Parenting experience and an understanding of the needs of families is an essential requirement, along with strong interpersonal skills. Car driver desirable.

For application packs contact: 01424 443636 - email: contact@hshr.org.uk
Closing date: Friday 11 November 12.00pm - Interviews: w/b Monday 14 November

3VA VACANCY

3VA is seeking a motivated, organised individual to provide assistance to two countywide (East Sussex) projects – Volunteer Centre East Sussex and SpeakUp Forum. Based in Eastbourne.

Successful candidate will have experience of working in an administrative role, being able to work as part of a team and preferably have experience of working within the voluntary and community sector. Full details – Job Description and Application will be available at www.3va.org.uk.

TEMPORARY DEVELOPMENT WORKER (HERITAGE)

(Fixed term contract 3 months)

Salary: £19,200 PA (pro rata)
Hours: 17.5 hours per week
Location: Tilling Green Community Centre, Rye

The Rye Castle and the Ypres Tower are key heritage sites and a source of interest for visitors to Rye. The Rye Museum Association is embarking on a project to restore the Victorian Women's Tower, which is located on the Rye Castle site. This role is an exciting opportunity to play a crucial role in the development of the second round application to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The applicant must have knowledge of project management techniques and be able to work with the Project Steering Group to create a document that details all of the necessary tasks and stages that will need to be completed to ensure the successful delivery of the project.

For further information contact Janet at Rye Partnership on 01797 229600 or email her at janet.tiltman@ryepartnership.org.uk for a full job description and application form. Closing date 4th November.

BITS & PIECES

LAUNCH - EXCESS WINTER DEATHS (EWD) ATLAS FOR ENGLAND

The Excess Winter Deaths Atlas for England aims to support those responsible for Cold Weather Planning, and those responsible for providing evidence and intelligence to support Cold Weather Planning in their local area. The Atlas includes a series of interactive map and chart display options and contains for each Local Authority in England and can be accessed at <http://www.wmpho.org.uk/excesswinterdeathsinEnglandatlas/>.

NEWS FROM BEXHILL ENVIRONMENT GROUP

BEG has recently won the Environment Award at the Bexhill Achievers Awards. This is BEG's third award in the last week or so.

Next two beach cleaning dates have been set: 19th November and 3rd December. Meet 10am close to the public conveniences at the West end of West Parade. We will finish by 12 noon at the latest. Leave early if you need to.

The BEG meeting on Thursday 3rd November will be their AGM. Everyone is welcome but only BEG members may vote in the elections. If you are not yet a member of BEG you can join for just £2.50 for the next six months until the end of March 2012.

If you have any questions call Michael on 07989 781199 or 01424 222166

FREE ONLINE GUIDES TO HELP GET THE MOST OUT OF COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

Digital Unite's [Learning Zone](#) provides a free online resource offering over 200 easy-to-use learner guides for people at all levels. Topics covered include getting started and how to email to using social networking sites and downloading music and films.

BT COMMUNITY WEB KIT

BT has [tools](#) that let voluntary and community groups build and maintain their own simple website free of charge.

MINIMUM WAGE

[Minimum wage](#) rates increase from 1 October.

COMMUNITY RIGHTS

CLG has published two new statements on the Community Rights in the Localism Bill, [Right to Challenge](#) and [Assets of Community Value](#).

ANALYSIS OF RURAL COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

ACRE, the umbrella body of the Rural Community Action Network, has released the final two reports based on research from over two thousand rural community buildings across England. 'The state and management of rural community buildings in England' examines the responsibility that volunteer trustees undertake in managing buildings and makes recommendations that could ease the financial and legislative burden. The other is titled 'The changing use of rural community buildings', in response to community change and challenges. Both in pdf (around 600KB) via <http://preview.tinyurl.com/62gbj5k>

RESEARCH DATABASE FOR THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

A new online database, bringing together research and information on the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors, has been launched by the Third Sector Research Centre, with the support of the British Library.

For more on the Third Sector Knowledge Portal, see

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/Research/KnowledgePortal/tabid/840/Default.aspx>

WHATS ON

MUDDY BOOTS (Battle area Network): 10th November 2011 - The Watch Oak, Battle, at 2pm

BEXHILL COMMUNITY NETWORK: 7th December 2011 - Bexhill Town Hall at 2pm

RYE NETWORK: 10th January 2012 - The School Creative Centre, New Road, Rye at 2pm

FREE ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING

On **Thursday 3rd November** in the Bagnall Room, Bexhill Caring Community, 25 Sackville Road, Bexhill

To book your appointment please call us on 01424 215116 between 9am and 12 noon Monday to Friday. Refreshments will be on sale. Other Health Professional organisations will be available for advice along with a bric-a-brac stall, tombola and raffle

Testing is free but donations to Bexhill Caring Community would be very much appreciated.

REMEMBER THOUSANDS OF HOUSE FIRES A YEAR ARE CAUSED BY FAULTY BLANKETS – MAKE SURE YOURS IS TESTED

HARD OF HEARING GROUP

The group meets once a month and is run by the East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre. Different speakers attend each month to talk on a variety of subjects and equipment is demonstrated which can be of help to hard of hearing people. You will also learn useful tips on how to communicate with deaf or hard of hearing people so your friends and family might want to come along too.

The next meeting at Battle will be on **Friday 4th Nov 2011**, 2pm – 3.30pm at the Battle Medical Centre, Telham House, 13 Mitre Way.

The subject for our talk this month is "The Digital TV Switchover." How will the switchover to digital TV affect you? What equipment will you need? How much will it cost? Talk presented by Fiona Wellings. Everybody welcome so put a note in your diary.

For further information please contact:

David Rowan, East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre, 8 St Leonard's Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 3UH ♦ Tel: 01323 722505 (voice/text/fax)

Email: david@eshrc.org.uk ♦ www.eshrc.org.uk

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR ME LATELY?

On **Saturday November 5th**, from 11am to 3pm (at the Azur in St Leonards on Sea), the LGBT Equalities in Hastings, Rother & East Sussex Forum invites local LGBT people to a half-day of discussion, awareness-raising and empowerment. The day will make clear what local LGBT communities can and should expect from their public services.

Representatives from local public services will attend the event, to tell you what they are doing to improve LGBT equality and what to do if you don't get the level of service you're promised. A short survey about your local experiences as an LGBT person will be completed during the event through

live anonymous voting from the audience. Afterwards, round-table discussions will allow you to discuss these experiences with like-minded people, and share what you know to help improve LGBT lives in your local area.

To find out more, contact the LGBT Equalities in Hastings, Rother & East Sussex Forum through Nick McGlynn (n.mcglynn2@brighton.ac.uk).

ROTHER RACE ACTION – WINTER EVENT

Saturday 12th November – 11am until 2pm at Bexhill Youth & Community Centre, 10 Station Road Bexhill. Share lunch together and join in with free activities which include children's arts and play, crafts, information about digital switch over and much much more.

Enjoy meeting people from minority ethnic communities and local services. This event is free and all are welcome. For more information contact Carol on 01424 787858.

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY EVENT

19th November 2011

11am - 4pm - St Mary's in the Castle

This event is organised by Women's Voice Community Organisation and supported by Children's Centres, Respond Academy, Hastings Borough Council, Brighton University in Hastings.

Story Telling, Dance, Music, Play Activities, Raffle, Henna Art, Face Painting, Arts and Craft, Information Stalls and a Toy Swap. Bring your unwanted toys and swap them for toys you do want! Remember only bring toys in good condition!

Please come along and join the fun! If you are interested in taking part or would like a stall please contact tilbrook@hastings.gov.uk or 01424 451855

HEALTH WALKS

Rye: every Monday 10 am - meet at Gibbets Marsh Car Park

Ticehurst: every Monday 10am - meet at Pickford Lane car park

Robertsbridge: every Tuesday 9.30am - meet outside Robertsbridge Youth Centre

Bexhill Ravenside Retail Park: every Wednesday 11am - meet outside the Tesco store

Battle: every Friday 10 am – meet on The Green opposite Battle Abbey

Bexhill: Every Friday 11am - meet in De La Warr Pavilion. (Till work completed on the Colonnade)

For further information telephone Paula Hubens, Healthy Walks Project Officer on 01424 446395

FARMERS MARKETS

Rye: Every Wednesday – 10am till noon at The Strand Quay

Battle: Every Saturday – 9am till 1pm at Abbey Green

RYE CASTLE MUSEUM DATES

All at 3 East Street, Rye.

Wednesday 2nd November: 2pm - 'Memories of Your Memorabilia' - Bring an item to show us and have tea and a chat.

Tuesday 8th November: 7.30pm: 'Romney Marsh Spires' - a talk by Alan Dickinson, who describes his recent research on Romney Marsh Churches.

Saturday 26th November: 10am to 4pm: Annual Craft Fair.

BEXHILL MUSEUM DATES

For full details of current, extensive, programme visit www.bexhillmuseum.co.uk

GET RVA NEWS AS AN RSS FEED ON YOUR HOMEPAGE – CLICK ON THIS LINK

<http://www.google.com/ig/add?feedurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk%2Fnews%2Ffeed>

RVA would like your short films about your community or local events or your opinions about things happening in your community. If you would like us to highlight news or issues contact Tina for more information at tina.hall@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk

The Bexhill office has a small meeting room that can be used by any voluntary or community group. In addition we can provide photocopying services for groups in the Rye office.

Disclaimer: we check all information in the newsletter and web site, but as ever with these things we give no warranties, and encourage active checking before you make any decisions.